

**Apparatus and method for coding an information signal into
a data stream, converting the data stream and decoding the
data stream**

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Abstract

More customization and adaptation of coded data streams may be achieved by processing the information signal such that the various syntax structures obtained by pre-coding the 10 information signal are placed into logical data packets, each of which being associated with a specific data packet type of a predetermined set of data packet types, and by defining a predetermined order of data packet types within one access unit of data packets. The consecutive access 15 units in the data stream may, for example, correspond to different time portions of the information signal. By defining the predetermined order among the data packet types it is possible, at decoder's side, to detect the borders between successive access units even when removable data 20 packets are removed from the data stream on the way from the data stream source to the decoder without incorporation of any hints into the remainder of the data stream. Due to this, decoders surely detect the beginnings and endings of access units and therefore are not liable to a buffer overflow 25 despite a removal of data packets from the data stream before arrival at the decoder.

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